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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/083,405	02/27/2002	Hidefumi Adachi	381AS/50989	7380
7590	06/06/2005		EXAMINER	
Crowell & Moring LLP The Evenson, McKeown, Edwards & Lenahan Intellectual Property Law Gr. 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20004-2595			TO, TUAN C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3663	
			DATE MAILED: 06/06/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/083,405	ADACHI, HIDEFUMI	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Tuan C To	3663		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2005.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                    2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

4)  Claim(s) 1-3,5-13,15-17 and 20-28 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) 1-3,5-8,11-13,15-17 and 20 is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 9 and 10 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2002 is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)  All   b)  Some \* c)  None of:

1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 04/08/2005

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_ .

5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

The indicated allowability of claims 9 and 10 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Teramura et al. (US 6226588B1). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Teramura et al. (US 6226588B1).

With respect to claim 9, the reference to Teramura et al. has been cited as teaching an apparatus for cruise control system, in which the adaptive cruise control system includes main switches (12a), a set switches (12b), a resume switch (12c), a cancel switch (12d), a tap switch (12e), an accelerator switch (12f), etc. The main switch is used for providing a state where cruise control can be start. The set switch (12b) is used for setting the vehicle speed as the target speed. The lower speed limit and also the upper speed limit, at which the cruise control enable can be set. The adaptive cruise control is maintained when the vehicle is traveling at a speed in the set

range. In the patent, the ACC is maintained during the traveling speed of 30-100 km/h. It should be noted that in Teramura et al, there is a braking pedal depression (13a), therefore, when the vehicle equipped with the cruise control system discussed above decelerates from the high speed (125 km/h), the decelerating signal can be generated following after.

With regard to claim 10, Teramura et al. further discloses that as using the cruise control switches, the cruise speed in the ACC can be reset to a value other than that is set before the foot brake operation was performed (see Teramura et al, figure 1, 12).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11-13, 15-17, and 20 are set in a condition for allowance because the cited prior art fails to disclose the claimed limitations. Thus, said claims are remained in the condition of allowance as stated in the previous office action.

***Conclusions***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on (571) 272-6956.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

Art Unit: 3663

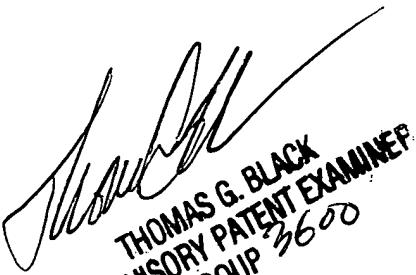
published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/tc

May 24, 2005



THOMAS G. BLACK  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 3600